

## House Resolution No. 1869

**Whereas**, it is with special pleasure that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to recognize an outstanding Missouri couple who have distinguished themselves as leaders of their community; and

**Whereas**, Doug and Walda Thompson, esteemed residents of Pierce City, Missouri, are to be commended for helping to establish the Children's Center of Southwest Missouri located between Monett and Pierce City; and

**Whereas**, the Children's Center was established in May 1997, since which time it has been steadfast in its efforts to reduce the trauma of abused children by facilitating a multidisciplinary response; and

**Whereas**, the Children's Center serves several main purposes in its mission to conduct one, neutral, child-friendly, fact-finding interview of the child; to provide a medical exam by a specially trained professional in a safe, child-friendly setting; to help the child victim and family navigate and understand the initial investigation and following legal process; and to provide therapy services for child abuse victims; and

**Whereas**, the Children's Center is dedicated to ten core components which include a child-friendly facility, multidisciplinary team, organization capacity, cultural competency, forensic interviews, therapeutic intervention, victim support/advocacy, case tracking, case review, and medical; and

**Whereas**, the Children's Center serves eleven counties in southwest Missouri: Bates, Barry, Barton, Cedar, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, St. Clair, and Vernon; and

**Whereas**, Doug and Walda Thompson put forth a tremendous effort to decorate and furnish the Bennett Home, preparing it for occupancy and making the rooms a safe and pleasant haven for the children:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in expressing our utmost appreciation to Doug and Walda Thompson for their unparalleled service to the Children's Center of Southwest Missouri, and in wishing them only the very best of success in all their future endeavors; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Doug and Walda Thompson.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Jack Goodman  
District No. 132

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1869, adopted April 20, 2004.

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Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker